9C/580920

IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 30 MAY 2006



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Ozaki et al.

Serial Number:

Unknown

Filed:

concurrently herewith

Internation Application: PCT/JP2004/015586

International Filing:

21 October 2004

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner:

Unknown

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Title:

Steering Handle And Steering System

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER MPEP §609

Commissioner For Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, §1.97, §1.98, and MPEP §609, applicant encloses a copy of the references listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A for consideration by the Examiner. Further to OG Date: 05 August 2003, the U.S. patent references are not enclosed. The reference JP 11-227614 is discussed in paragraphs [0002] and [0003] of the specification as filed, and the remaining nine references are cited in the International Search Report dated 12-10-2004, issued in the International Application PCT/JP04/015586.

Although an English translation of the reference JP 50-58427 is not being submitted herewith, relevance of the reference in comparison to the present invention is cited in the International Search Report issued in the enclosed International Application of the above referenced National Phase application. Such discussion is not meant to be exhaustive of the differences between the present invention and the reference, but merely illustrative.

The listed references are being cited only in the interests of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or contain matter which anticipates the present invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

Customer Number 21828 Carrier, Blackman & Associates, P.C. 24101 Novi Road, Suite 100 Novi, Michigan 48375 30 May 2006

Joseph P. Carrier Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 31,748

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail Certificate EQ398011445US in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner For Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450 on 30 May 2006.

Dated: 30 May 2006

JPC/pmp Enclosures Paula M Patterson

AP20 REC 0 PUT/PTO 30 MAY 2006
PTO/SB/08A (07-05)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of

| (| Complete if Known |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 10/580920 |
| Filing Date | 70, 200,150 |
| First Named Inventor | Takafumi Ozaki |
| Art Unit | |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | OCB-228-A |

| U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (# known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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|-----------------------|--------------|---|---------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ -Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | JP 52-044924 | 04-08-1977 | Komatsu Zoki KK; Komatsu Ltd. | | X |
| | | JP 62-036869 | 02-17-1987 | Toshiba Corp. | | X |
| | | JP 06-059763 | 03-04-1994 | Ishizaka Takuya | | X |
| | | JP 11-227614 | 08-24-1999 | Itagaki Mitsuo | | X |
| | | JP 11-048985 JP 06-092241 | 02-23-1999 04-05-1994 | Honda Motor Co., ttd. − both | | X |
| | | JP 11-342849 | 12-14-1999 | Honda Motor Co., Ltd. | | Х |
| | | JP 2003-291821 | 10-15-2003 | Koyo Seiko Co., Ltd | | X |
| | | JP 2004-175217 | 06-24-2004 | Toyota Motor Corp. | | X |
| | | JP 058427 | 05-31-1975 | Yasuyuki Nishi | | |

| Examiner Signature | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.